

Application No. 10/612,831
Discussion Amendment for Consideration by Examiner

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-22 and 26-33 are pending in this application. Claims 3, 23-25 are canceled. Claims 1, 2, 12, 15 and 19 are currently amended.

Applicants thank the Examiner for conferring by telephone in January, 2008, to suggest and discuss a proposed Examiner's Amendment to the claims. Applicants have prepared a discussion amendment in accordance with Applicants' understanding of the Examiner's suggestion. Applicants' counsel will contact the Examiner next week, after the Examiner has had an opportunity to review the discussion amendment. This discussion amendment assumes that the Amendment Applicants submitted on October 10, 2007 will be entered, and a further Examiner's amendment made to the claims. Thus, the redlining in the discussion amendment set forth above assumes entry of Applicants' Amendment filed October 10, 2007.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. If the Examiner disagrees or has any concerns with formalities, Applicants respectfully request a telephone conference with the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,
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